

## **2015 Washington Columbia River fall season sport fishing proposals for Southwest Washington**

Contains changes only. If a river is not on this list, there are no proposed changes for that river.

### **DRAFT April 6, 2015**

*Since the March 10 draft:*

#### **Added**

**Remove Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement from upper Rock Creek (Skamania Co.)**

**Justification:** Public proposal. The falls at River Mile 1 are an anadromous fish barrier. The endorsement would continue to be needed below the falls.

#### **Modified**

**Anti-snagging rule and night closure to begin one month earlier on the upper Washougal River; closed area increased below the temporary weir**

The anti-snagging rule and night closure would be in effect from the Mt. Norway Bridge to the Salmon Falls Bridge starting Aug. 1 instead of Sept. 1.

Increase the closed waters from 200 feet to 1,000 feet below the temporary weir when the weir is installed in the river.

**Justification:** Request from Enforcement to address snagging of fall Chinook in the Washougal River above the Mt. Norway Bridge. Fish tend to congregate below the temporary weir site beginning in August, especially in the area just below the weir. The closed waters above the temporary weir would remain unchanged at 200 feet.

***Update: Per request from Enforcement, closed waters increased up to 1,000 feet below the temporary weir.***

**Allow barbed hooks during fall salmon fisheries at Drano Lake and the lower Klickitat River; delay start of 2 poles at Drano**

At Drano Lake, barbed hooks would be allowed Oct. 1-Dec. 31. To match the barbed hooks, two poles would be allowed beginning Oct. 1 instead of Sept. 15. On the Klickitat

River from the mouth to the Fisher Hill Bridge, barbed hooks would be allowed Aug. 1-Jan. 31.

**Justification:** Staff proposal. Both fisheries are not mark-selective and target hatchery produced fall Chinook and coho. The delay will reduce handling of summer steelhead that may be still in the lake.

From the Fisher Hill Bridge upstream, barbless hooks would still be required as wild trout and wild steelhead are present in the upper Klickitat.

***Update: Barbed hooks would be allowed on the lower Klickitat from Sept. 1-Dec. 31. Counts at the #5 fishway trap show the higher numbers of salmon and fewer steelhead are present during this proposed new timeframe.***

### **Fix adult salmonid daily limits on the Klickitat River**

Summer Season:

SALMON from 400 feet upstream from #5 fishway to lower boundary markers at Klickitat Salmon Hatchery June 1-July 31: Daily limit is 6 fish of which no more than 2 may be adults. Release wild CHINOOK.

FALL SEASON:

SALMON & STEELHEAD from the mouth upstream to Fisher Hill Bridge August 1-January 31 and from #5 fishway upstream to lower boundary markers at Klickitat Salmon Hatchery August 1-November 30: Daily limit is 6 fish of which no more than a total of 3 may be CHINOOK or hatchery STEELHEAD.

**Justification:** Staff proposal. Summer season allows separate limits for SALMON and TROUT (including bonus limit for hatchery STEELHEAD). Fall salmon inadvertently changed to 3 adult salmonids during the permanent rule process which precluded the bonus adult coho daily limit (up to 6 fish).

***Update: Separate limits for SALMON and TROUT (including 3 hatchery STEELHEAD). Fall salmon daily limit has been clarified to 6 fish, no more than 3 adult Chinook. Still allows adult coho bonus daily limit (up to 6 fish).***

***Below Fisher Hill Bridge:***

***SALMON: June 1-July 31, daily limit 6 fish of which no more than 2 may be adults. Release wild CHINOOK.***

***SALMON: Aug. 1-Jan. 31, daily limit 6 fish of which no more than 3 may be adult CHINOOK.***

***TROUT: June 1-Jan. 31, daily limit 3 hatchery STEELHEAD.***

***Above Fisher Hill Bridge:***

***SALMON: Aug. 1-Nov. 30, daily limit 6 fish of which no more than 3 may be adult CHINOOK.***

***TROUT: June 1-Nov. 30, daily limit 3 fish of which no more than 2 may be other than hatchery STEELHEAD.***

### **Removed**

**New exclusive angling area near the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery for anglers with a disability**

Closed waters within a 100' radius of the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery wheelchair ramp structure (within the posted fishing boundaries) except for anglers with disabilities AND who have a designated harvester companion card.

**Justification:** Staff proposal. This will create a barrier free area for anglers with disabilities, similar to the one currently in place at the Cowlitz Trout Hatchery ADA site.

***Update: Proposal removed after receiving several staff and public comments. This proposal would impact the limited bank fishing area available to the general public.***

***Exclusive angling area for anglers with a disability remains unchanged at the Cowlitz Trout Hatchery***